

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A stress/strain relief process for a flexible, multilayered web stock includes providing a multilayered web stock including at least one layer to be treated, the at least one layer to be treated having a coefficient of thermal expansion significantly differing from a coefficient of thermal expansion of another layer; passing the multilayered web stock over and in contact with a first wrinkle-reducing roller that spontaneously creates transverse tension stress in the at least one layer to be treated; heating at least the at least one layer to be treated above a glass transition temperature  $T_g$  of the at least one layer to be treated to thereby create a heated portion of the at least one layer to be treated, a portion of the web stock in proximity to the heated portion of the at least one layer to be treated thereby becoming a heated portion of the web stock; inducing curvature in the heated portion of the web stock; and cooling the heated portion of the web stock at said curvature.